

**REMARKS**

Claims 2 and 10 have been canceled without prejudice.

The Office objected to claims 5 and 13 for introducing a third passageway without having the basis for a second passageway. Applicants believe that the amendments to independent claims 1 and 9 as described below now render this objection moot.

The Office rejected claims 1, 4-9, 12, 14 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Papadopoulos (3518608).

Claims 2, 3, 10, 11, 13, and 15 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

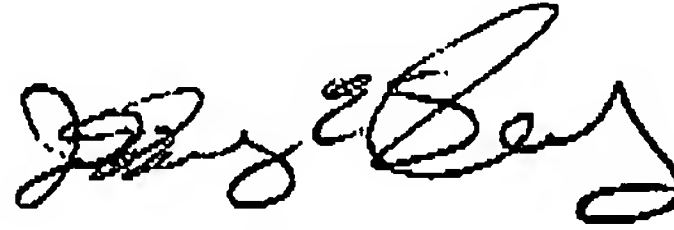
Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of original, allowable claim 2 and claim 9 has been amended to include the limitations of original, allowable claim 10 and claims 2 and 10 have been canceled. Claims 4-8 now depend from amended base claim 1 and claims 12, 14, and 16 now depend from amended base claim 9. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 3-9, and 11-16 are now allowable.

In view of the amendments made herein, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

The Applicants believe that there are no fees due at this time; however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required at any time during the prosecution of

this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account 180584. If there are any questions concerning the above, please contact the undersigned at 281-878-5658.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffery E. Daly  
Reg. No. 44,640

IntelliServ, Inc.  
400 N. Sam Houston Prkwy East  
Suite 900  
Houston, TX 77060  
Ph: 281-878-5658  
Fax: 281-878-5720  
e-mail: [jeffery.daly@grantprideco.com](mailto:jeffery.daly@grantprideco.com)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

5/9/2006  
Date

Signature 